

In re Patent Application of

MAERTENS, et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2551-126

Serial No. 09/899,046

Group: 1648

Filed: July 6, 2001

Examiner: BROWN, Timothy M.

For: NEW SEQUENCE OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS GENOTYPES AND THEIR USE AS

THERAPEUTIC AND DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS

June 21, 2006

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

STATEMENT

The Examiner's brief comments in the Interview Summary received with the Notice of Allowance of March 22, 2006, are an accurate reflection of the issues discussion during the interview, while the applicants did not necessarily agree with the Examiner's interpretation of the claims. Nothing further is believed to be required in response to the Interview Summary however the Examiner is requested to advise the undersigned if otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

B. J. Sadoff

Reg. No. 36,663

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100